

NEWSLETTER



ABN 68 300 116 092

GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

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Keep up to date



2025 Kinimathatakinta / George Town Art Prize

Image: Rob Burnett



Progressive



Prosperous



Proud

MAY 2025

Message from the Mayor

Cr Greg Kieser



As we welcome the shift into cooler days and crisp evenings, I extend a warm and heartfelt greeting to each and every one of you. It's always a joy to reflect on the many milestones and moments that continue to shape our vibrant community.

One of the exciting developments on our horizon is the continued progress of the George Town Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre. With the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal's recent dismissal of an appeal against the development application, we are ready to move forward with this transformational project. **To read the full media release please the George Town Council website.**

Over the past few months, we have conducted a Community Satisfaction Survey giving our community the opportunity to share their thoughts on how we're doing in areas such as customer service, service delivery, communication, and overall Council direction. Your input is invaluable, and I look forward to reading the results and sharing them with the community in the coming months.

Last month, we were once again reminded of the extraordinary creativity within our community during the 2025 Kinimathatakinta / George Town Art Prize. Congratulations to all the finalists — your talent is truly inspiring. If you missed the exhibition, you can still view the full catalogue on our Council website.

We're also proud to support the 'Lift the Tone' campaign launched by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT). Backed by mental health professionals, this initiative encourages respectful and constructive public dialogue, especially in light of concerning reports of abuse directed at local elected representatives. To read more about this campaign and to take the pledge, please visit the LGAT website.

With National Volunteer Week on the horizon, I want to express heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers for their unwavering dedication and the profound impact they have on our community. If you haven't already, there's still time to nominate and honour a deserving volunteer for the George Town Volunteer of the Year Awards. Visit the George Town Council website for more details.

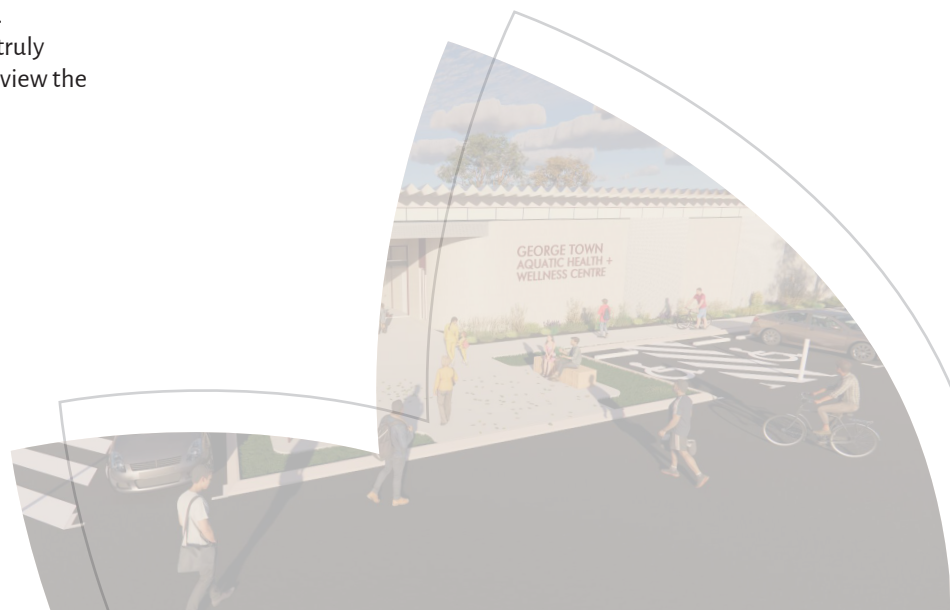


Finally, I invite community members to join me and our General Manager, Shane Power, as we hit the road once more for our annual roadshow across the municipality. It's an opportunity to unveil upcoming projects, share initiatives, and engage in productive dialogue with you, our valued residents.

I am immensely proud to serve such an engaged and resilient community. Your passion and participation are what make George Town not just a municipality, but a home. Here's to a season ahead filled with connection, progress, and shared success.

LIFT THE TONE

Better debate for stronger communities.



George Town Youth Impact Council



The Youth Impact Council continue to represent their region. In 2025, 17 young people have signed up to be part of the Youth Impact Council with more expressing interest. The team have met consistently and continue to raise issues and ideas that affect local young people. With a strong focus on public safety, the youth are concerned about accessible footpaths, street lighting, facilities in public places (eg. Pontoon, bike trails), bus shelters and continuing to address the vandalism in George Town.

The Youth Impact Council have recently conducted a car wash fundraiser held on March 22. During the day, they washed over 50 cars and connected with the community about the development of the Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre, raising extra funds for outdoor waterplay. The team have since

met and are discussing prioritising free swimming lessons for local young people with the funding raised as a way of seeing immediate benefit to the young people of George Town.

The Youth Impact Council played a part in the delivery of the NEBHUB Futures Expo held on March 22, providing event support through registrations, catering support and stallholder support. The youth previously advocated for mental health services to be involved in the expo which saw the addition of stallholders from a variety of youth services on display.

The Youth Impact Council attended the Tasmanian Youth Forum with over 150 young people from around the state with the topic discussion on youth engagement and participation in Government.

Youth Week 2025 had the theme of "Courage: Stepping out of your comfort zone". Through discussion with young people and the Youth Impact Council, a week long program was created for participants to explore youth events, participate in adventure based activities, and join in on new experiences. Activities included mountain bike riding, rock climbing, fishing, abseiling and attending the Riverbend Rock Challenge, Exeter Youth Festival and the Library's Minute to Win it Challenge.

The Launchpad Drop in program has commenced on Thursday afternoons with local young people attending each week. During the time, various youth services, creative artists and even bike mechanics to provide a service and connection for the youth in attendance. With the growing success of this program, we look forward to expanding the Launchpad Drop in program in the coming months.

The 2025 Seagulls to Chips program has been designed in term 1 and applications are open for young people aged 12-16 to participate. The 2025 Seagulls to Chips program entails 5 experiences outside of George Town, connections with locally based opportunities, and opportunities to make a positive difference in George Town. The weekly sessions are designed to build the capacity in individuals supporting them to positively share kindness and tell a George Town story that boosts pride and ownership in their region. Applications for the program opened in April with the program scheduled to commence this Winter.

2025 Kinimathatakinta/ George Town Youth Art Prize

Are you a young artist or know a young artist ready to showcase their talent?

The Kinimathatakinta/George Town Youth Art Prize is your opportunity to share your creativity, ideas, and artistic vision with the community.

Open to artists aged up to the age of 25, this prize celebrates the powerful voices of young people and offers a professional platform for emerging talent in Kinimathatakinta/George Town.

Sponsored by Bell Bay Aluminium

Entries close Monday, 2nd of June.

For more information or to apply, please visit our website.

ART
CULTURE
CREATIVITY

2025 Community Engagement Sessions

Join us, alongside our General Manager, Mayor and Councillors, as we embark on our annual roadshow across the municipality in the coming months. It's a chance to unveil exciting upcoming projects, share innovative initiatives, and foster meaningful dialogue with our cherished residents.

Everyone is welcome to attend as we journey through Hillwood, Pipers River, Weymouth, George Town/Low Head, Bellingham, Lulworth, and Beechford.



2025 Kinimathatakinta / George Town Art Prize



Congratulations to the 2025 Kinimathatakinta / George Town Art Prize Winners!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who entered, attended, and supported this year's Art Prize. We're proud to celebrate the remarkable talent, powerful stories, and creativity that reflect our community and municipality.

- **Major Acquisitive Award** – Jennifer Dickens, Birdsong.

Celebrated for its layered, deeply personal meditation on land, memory, and heritage in the Low Head area.

- **Kanamaluka Photographic Award** – Jennie Timmins, Iridescent Hues.

Recognised for capturing the essence of the Kanamaluka/ Tamar River through vibrant colour, thoughtful composition, and atmospheric depth.

- **Packing Room Prize** – Bobby Gloops, The Alcoholic.

Selected by the installation team for its emotional honesty, relevance, and bold, resonant storytelling.

- **People's Choice Award** - Sabrina Guy, Radiance Over kanamaluka.

A huge thank you to our sponsors: Bell Bay Aluminium, Bridget Archer MP - Former Liberal Member for Bass, and Highclare Estate.

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Bellingham	Monday, 26th of May	10am - 12pm	Bellingham Hall
Weymouth	Monday, 26th of May	2pm - 4pm	Weymouth Hall
Hillwood	Monday, 26th of May	6pm - 8pm	Hillwood Memorial Hall
Lulworth	Thursday, 29th of May	2pm - 4pm	Community Shed
Pipers River/ Pipers Brook	Thursday, 29th of May	6pm - 8pm	Pipers River Fire Station
Beechford	Friday, 30th May	4pm - 6pm	Beechford Hub
George Town & Low Head	Thursday, 5th of June	6pm - 8pm	Graham Fairless Centre

Community Consultation: George Town & Low Head Open Space Network

We're inviting community members to review and share feedback on the Draft George Town & Low Head Open Space Network Plan.

This strategic document identifies a number of goals for an effective open space network that meets the needs of the whole community, along with recommendations and strategies that may be implemented to achieve these outcomes.

Consultation is now open until 5pm Friday, 16th of May 2025.

Share your thoughts via online form, email, and view the draft plan via Council's website.

Health & Wellbeing Information Sessions

Explore a range of free, informative sessions designed to support your health and wellbeing this June. Topics include Understanding Autism and ADHD from a Neurodiversity-Affirming Perspective, Living Well with Arthritis, Asthma Basics, Diabetes Services & Programs, and Healthy Eating.

These sessions are a great opportunity to learn from experienced professionals and ask questions in a supportive environment.

Whether you're managing a condition, caring for someone or simply looking to improve your health, there's something for everyone.

Sessions are free, but registration is required. Full details and registration information are available on the George Town Council website.



WHAT	WHEN & WHERE	TIME
Understanding Autism and ADHD from a Neurodiversity-Affirming Perspective <i>Facilitated by Healthy Mind Centre.</i>	Monday, 2nd June 2025 Macquarie Room George Town Memorial Hall	10:30am - 12:30pm
Living Well with Arthritis <i>Facilitated by Arthritis & Osteoporosis Tasmania.</i>	Friday, 6th June 2025 Macquarie Room George Town Memorial Hall	11:00am - 12:00pm
Asthma Basics <i>Facilitated by Asthma Tasmania.</i>	Tuesday, 10th June 2025 Macquarie Room George Town Memorial Hall	1:00pm - 2:00pm
Diabetes Services & Programs <i>Facilitated by Diabetes Australia.</i>	Monday, 16th June 2025 Macquarie Room George Town Memorial Hall	1:30pm - 3:00pm
Healthy Eating <i>Facilitated by Eat Nutrition.</i>	Friday, 27th of June 2025 Supper Room/Kitchen George Town Memorial Hall	2:30pm - 4:30pm

Help Shape the Future of Mountain Biking in George Town!

George Town Council is seeking feedback from users of the George Town Mountain Bike Trails, including both Tippogoree Hills and Mt George trail networks. Whether you're a local rider or a visitor, we want to hear about your experiences, what you value, and what could make your ride even better.

Your input will help guide improvements to the trails and help connect trail users with businesses and services in our town. Please take a few minutes to complete our short survey. Scan the QR code to complete the survey.

Thank you for supporting George Town's growing mountain biking community!



Key Dates/Information

Solstice in the Square

Winter's Warmer Up North

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, 20th June 2025.

Tickets go on sale Monday, 19th of May, 10am

As the longest night of the year approaches, George Town's Solstice in the Square invites you to embrace the magic of winter in Northern Tasmania. Gather under the night sky at Regent Square for an enchanting evening of fireside warmth, live music, delicious food, and mulled wine. This family-friendly celebration balances darkness and light, connection and renewal—bringing our community together for a night of warmth and wonder.

Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details!



NAIDOC Week — Save the Date

Join us in celebrating NAIDOC Week this July:

- Monday 7 July — Flag Raising Ceremony and Morning Tea
- Thursday 10 July — Supper and Film Screening of *In My Blood It Runs* (2019)

More details to come — stay tuned.



**THE NEXT
GENERATION:
STRENGTH,
VISION &
LEGACY**
6-13 JULY 2025

Creative George Town Exhibition Series Wrap-Up

Our pilot exhibition series has officially wrapped! A huge thank you to all participating artists and to the community for the incredible support, attendance, and positive feedback. Your engagement has helped shape the future of arts programming in our region.

Blister Packs Recycling

You can now recycle your empty blister packs!

Thanks to our partnership with Pharmacycle, you can now bring your empty blister packs to recycle at collection points in the Council Offices on Anne Street and the George Town Waste Transfer Station.

The collected blister packs are transported to the Pharmacycle processing facility. Here, they are put through a series of mechanical recycling processes to separate the aluminium from the plastic. Finally, the separated aluminium and plastic materials are sent to end-users to be turned into new products.



Our newsletter is also available to view on our website www.georgetown.tas.gov.au



Progressive



Prosperous



Proud